Washington State Patrol Media Release

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Traffic Safety Commission recognizes local Troopers

On April 18, 2006, the Spokane County Traffic Safety Commission will present awards to 17 local WSP troopers for their traffic enforcement efforts in 2005. The ceremony will start at 7:00 pm at Spokane Community College. Washington State Traffic Safety Commission Director Lowell Porter will be the guest speaker.

The following troopers will receive awards for DUI enforcement. Troopers Jon McKee, Barry Marcus, Devyn Derrick, Mark Haas, Robert Spencer, Travis Robbins and Joe Pass removed a total of 1,041 impaired drivers from area roadways in 2005. Troopers Jon McKee and Barry Marcus led the way, Trooper McKee arrested 244 DUI drivers (#1 in Washington State), and Trooper Marcus had 231 DUI arrests (#2 in Washington State).

The following troopers will receive awards for seat belt/child restraint enforcement. Troopers Morgan Mehaffey, Bryant Blake, Todd Kerbs, John Smith, Terry VanWeerdhuizen, Mark Baker, Jeff Sevigney, Troy Briggs and Scott Lasher combined to make 3,186 seat belt/child restraint contacts in 2005. Trooper Morgan Mehaffey had the most contacts with 520.

The following troopers will receive awards for speed enforcement. Motorcycle Troopers Joe Pass and Wayne Turner combined to stop 4,902 drivers for speeding in 2005. Both troopers had over a 90% enforcement rate for the year.

"These troopers have exemplified the tremendous efforts of all of the men and women of the WSP serving the citizens of Spokane County," said WSP District Commander Captain Jeff Otis. "I am very proud of these troopers receiving awards recognizing their outstanding efforts in traffic safety."

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